

and the need for affordable, available coverage. As if that isn't enough, Karen has also given to our community as a one of the most capable and caring elected officials, having served on the Lucas County Educational Service Center since election in 1999 and on which she has served four terms as Board President.

Throughout, Karen has opened her heart and home to others. Those young people are now grown with children of her own, and Karen is now a proud grandma. We share with her family our pride in her accomplishments and in the receipt of the honor most recently bestowed. The Barbara Klass Sokol Award is a special award and this year it has been given to a very special woman.

Karen Krause's legacy in our community runs deep. As was noted when the presentation was made this weekend, Karen is truly "a champion of the people," a mantle she wears most humbly. She has travelled a path of her own and brought up many others along the way. Her servant's heart is her true gift, and one she has shared willingly in more than fifty years of public service. She has truly practiced Christ's Word that "Whatsoever you do to the least among you, that you do unto me." Her efforts have earned her the respect of those of us lucky enough to call her friend. This weekend's recognition was a chance for all of us to say, most heartfelt, "Thank you Karen."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CARSON
WILLIAMS

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2013

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish Carson Williams a Happy Birthday.

Carson was born on July 30, 1999 in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He is the son of Carlton Williams and Gretchen Richards.

Carson attends Signal Mountain Middle High School—home of the Eagles—located in Signal Mountain, Tennessee. From the time he could swing a bat, Carson played t-ball and Dixie Youth baseball. Today, Carson plays baseball for the Signal Mountain Middle High School varsity team. He is one on the best ball players on Signal Mountain.

As well as baseball, Carson loves to wake board, snow board, and play basketball. He kayaks, fishes and camps with his dad. Sometimes they go to the Nantahala River. They are best friends forever.

Carson and his mom are best friends forever, too. Carson and his mom do school projects together and cook. Carson also spends time on the lake with his mom and stepdad Mike. At 13 years old, Carson earned his boating license. He now drives a pontoon. Carson and Mike also like to hunt together. They hunt in Alabama, and anywhere else with lots of woods.

Carson loves Funyuns, Dr. Pepper, sea food, rare prime rib, and his family. He is proud to be from Tennessee.

Carson's sister is Margot Clark, married happily ever after to Justin.

Carson's grandparents on his paternal side are the late Thomas "Papa" Williams, a graduate of Texas A&M (Class of '60), and Mildred "Mimi" Williams, a retired school teacher who graduated from the University of South Carolina Aiken where she was a Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. Carson says no one makes chicken and dumplings better than his Mimi. Carson misses his Papa.

On his maternal side, Carson's grandparents are Albert and Betty Jones, and Mike and Sue Richards. Albert is a graduate of Sewanee: The University of the South. Betty graduated from the University of Tennessee and was a tennis coach at Chattanooga State. She is teaching Carson to play tennis. Mike is a graduate of Auburn University, and Sue graduated from Troy State and earned a Master's degree from the University of Alabama. Grandma Sue is one of the best cooks Carson knows.

Carson's aunts are Lisa Williams, Cindy Jones, and Lynn Civitts.

Carson wants a truck one day soon. For now, he has to make do with happy birthday wishes from his family.

LONG BEACH CENTRAL AREA
ASSOCIATION

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2013

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following.

Whereas, the Long Beach Central Area Association (LBCAA) is a 22 year old non-profit organization; and

Whereas, MusicUNTOLD is the program and event production arm of the LBCAA, dedicated to educational art programs that promote diversity and human dignity; and

Whereas, all of MusicUNTOLD events and programs are free to the public, except annual signature/ticketed concerts; and

Whereas, the signature concert for 2013, is the 50th anniversary of the "Martin Luther King, Jr. Symphony of Brotherhood" Concert, on August 18 at the Zipper Hall-Colburn; and

Whereas, the chamber music concert is celebrating the 50th Anniversary "March on Washington for Freedom and Jobs" and Dr. King's "I Have A Dream" speech, featuring national and local classical and opera artists; and

Whereas, the concert will present MLK Jr.'s little known appreciation of classical and opera music, a correlation between Beethoven and MLK Jr., and the historical footprint of MLK Jr. in Los Angeles; and

Whereas, the world premiere of "Candlelight" for soprano by South Korean educator and composer Dr. Joopoong Kim.

More information can be found <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/385424> and www.musicuntold.com.

CELEBRATING 28 YEARS OF SERVICE: PEGGY LYNCH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FRIENDS OF THE PARKS AND TRAILS OF SAINT PAUL AND RAMSEY COUNTY

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2013

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the inspiring career of Ms. Peggy Lynch, a leader in preservation of parks and green space, on the occasion of her retirement as Executive Director from Friends of the Parks and Trails of Saint Paul and Ramsey County.

The Friends of the Parks and Trails of Saint Paul and Ramsey County has its origins in a group of citizens who banded together to protect Hidden Falls—Crosby Lake Regional Park in 1984 from developers proposing to build housing within the park. After the housing proposal was defeated, the group continued to meet, and a permanent organization was established in 1985 with a grant from the Saint Paul Foundation. Peggy Lynch co-founded the organization and served as Executive Director for the next 28 years. Today, because of Peggy's extraordinary persistence and advocacy for the outdoors, the organization has led development and preservation of parks across the east metro region and earned her the title the "Conscience of the Parks."

Thanks to Peggy Lynch's vision, the organization achieved foundational work to protect public access to green space. In 1985 the group initiated a study of parks in Saint Paul and Ramsey County during a period of intense developer interest in prime park land. At the time, there were few local park commissions and developers had no obligation to contribute to the park system. Cities such as Saint Paul sold parkland for a dollar per parcel. As a result of a study by the Friends of the Parks and Trails of Saint Paul and Ramsey County, Park Commissions in Saint Paul and Ramsey County were established. The amendment of the City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County charters for "no net loss" of parkland were approved. These actions built a system to preserve and add parkland for public use.

Additionally, Peggy and Friends of the Parks and Trails of Saint Paul and Ramsey County have helped develop and support the environment by promoting appreciation for parks and open space through quality parks, trails, and bikeways. Through educational, community, and corporate outreach programs, they have provided access to recreational opportunities to communities who otherwise may not have the opportunity to experience it.

Peggy's influence brought increased recognition and elevated the importance of preserving the great outdoors for present and future generations to come. Her work along with the Friends of the Parks and Trails of Saint Paul and Ramsey County are legacies that will live on in the organization's work advocating for the environment in the Twin Cities.